

WCCO-TV QUARTERLY ISSUES/PROGRAMS REPORT PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2009 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2009

ATTACHED ARE LISTINGS OF BROADCASTS OR BROADCAST SEGMENTS WHICH, IN THE STATION'S JUDGEMENT, REFLECT THE STATION'S MOST SIGNIFICANT TREATMENT OF ASCERTAINED COMMUNITY ISSUES DURING THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2009 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2009.

PROGRAM INDEX: "*WCCO 4 News*" – is a regularly scheduled half-hour newscast at 5:00, 6:00 and 10:00 p.m. Duration of stories listed in this report range from 1 to 12 minutes.

"**60 MINUTES**" is a regularly scheduled one-hour CBS News magazine show. Segments run approximately 12 minutes.

"**48 HOURS INVESTIGATES**" is a regularly scheduled one-hour CBS News magazine show. Segments run approximately 12 minutes.

CONSUMER: Allina Interest, Sweepstakes Scam, Credit Card Rates

January 22, 2009, *WCCO 4 News*, "Allina Interest" – In the past few months, a growing patient debt level was cited as a major reason two hospitals in Minneapolis, Allina and Fairview, were forced to lay off hundreds of staff. Patients say they can't afford high interest rates they're paying on some medical bills. Now, Minnesota's Attorney General is taking Allina to court. Patients of Allina Hospitals & Clinics have been paying 18 percent interest when they couldn't pay their bills in full. The lawsuit alleges that Allina is treating medical debt the same as revolving credit cards and that practice violates the Minnesota usury laws regulating consumer interest. Even though Allina has already agreed to roll back its finance charge, the suit will continue. The Attorney General's office wants assurances from Allina that it will abide by the state's 8 percent cap. Equally important, it wants Allina to refund excess finance charges it says were collected illegally. **March 1, 2009, *WCCO 4 News*, "Sweepstakes Scam"** – The latest scam is using the Publishers Clearing House name. Minnesota's Department of Public Safety Alcohol Gambling Enforcement Division says the sweepstakes scam is being heavily promoted by phone, mail and the Internet. Recently, people in Minnesota and other states have received notices of sweepstakes winnings. The notices come on fake Publishers Clearing House letterhead with a bogus check for several thousands of dollars. Recipients are directed to quickly call an agent to redeem winnings prior to depositing the check. They are then instructed to send money via wire transfer after depositing the check for fees. **March 2, 2009, *WCCO 4 News*, "Credit Card Rates"** – Credit card companies have seen some of the worse default rates in years. To protect themselves, some are starting to charge higher interest rates, even to customers who always pay on time. American Express has even offered some people \$300 to close their accounts.

Capital One has said they are raising their rates for some cardholders to account for the increased risk of lending to consumers in the current economic environment. Experts say people who carry higher balances are more at risk.

CRIME AND PUBLIC SAFETY: Xcel Thefts, Purse Snatchers, Cyber Crime, Billboard Johns

January 14, 2009, WCCO 4 News, “Xcel Thefts” – St. Paul Police had issued a warning recently about thefts from cars parked around the Xcel Center during Minnesota Wild hockey games. Two men have been charged with fraud after police caught them using a Visa card that was stolen from a car parked outside the Xcel. In addition to the credit card, police also found a laptop computer, cell phones, a Blackberry and some stolen checkbooks. **February 18, 2009, WCCO 4 News, “Purse Snatchers”**- Police are investigating a string of purse snatchings. In the last few days, at least five women have been robbed. Investigators say all of them were targeted in the Whittier neighborhood in South Minneapolis. In most cases, the robbers literally ripped the purses from the women’s shoulders. One of the victims was punched in the face. Police are reminding women to be aware of their surroundings and not to walk alone. **February 26, 2009, WCCO 4 News, “Cyber Crime”** - Microsoft is helping local police officers catch criminals using the Internet. The computer company is leading some training sessions in St. Paul. They’re showing police officers how criminals use the Internet to commit crimes, and teaching ways investigators can bust them. Cyber crimes have caused a growth in the field of computer forensics, where people identify, preserve and analyze digital evidence for use in court. **March 10, 2009, WCCO 4 News, “Billboard Johns”** – A crackdown on prostitution is underway in Minneapolis with the emphasis on busting johns. In an effort to keep men from the suburbs from coming into the city to buy sex, Minneapolis is beefing up prosecution and putting convicted johns’ pictures on a website, and now possibly on an electronic billboard. In the past, those arrested for soliciting prostitution were ordered to participate in a restorative justice program, and the conviction didn’t go on their records. Some of the billboards on Interstate 35W could feature the names and faces of men convicted of buying sex. Clear Channel, an electronic billboard owner, has agreed to donate space to the city to display the johns’ mug shots.

DIVERSITY: School Sued, Suicide Bomber, AA Summit, Gay Marriage

January 22, 2009, WCCO 4 News, “School Sued” – Tarek Ibn Ziyad Academy, a Twin Cities charter school, is being sued by the ACLU. The lawsuit alleges TIZA is tied too closely financially with the Muslim American Society and that Islamic prayers are posted for students to read and recite during school hours. **February 23, 2009, WCCO 4 News, “Suicide Bomber”** – It’s hard to think of Minnesota as a “terrorist training ground”, but Robert Mueller, Director of the FBI says a young man was recruited to be a terrorist here in Minnesota. Mueller says the man, Shirwa Ahmed, went off to Somalia after being recruited by a militant group and became the first U.S. citizen to become a suicide bomber. The FBI is worried about others doing the same thing. Investigators had been looking at two Twin Cities mosques, but both mosques have denied they were

recruiting anyone for war. Somali leaders are worried other young men are being recruited for similar attacks. In the past few months, at least a dozen Somali young men in the Twin Cities have disappeared. Minnesota has the largest Somali community in the United States. - **March 17, 2009, WCCO 4 News, "Gay Marriage"** – A gay marriage bill is up being proposed again at the State Capitol. The bill would allow voters to decide in 2012 whether gay marriage should be banned, not just in law, but in the Minnesota Constitution. A coalition of religious and community groups are calling gay unions an assault on marriage and the family. Minnesota law already defines marriage as the union between a man and a woman. Gay advocacy groups say this is unconstitutional and banning gay marriage is discriminatory. House and Senate leaders say a gay marriage ban is unlikely to pass this year.

ENVIRONMENT: Ethanol Study, Fish Mercury, Red Stag LEED

February 3, 2009, WCCO 4 News, "Ethanol Study" – We've been hearing a lot about corn-based ethanol being better for the environment than regular gasoline. However, a new study by the University of Minnesota may discredit that. The study estimated the costs to human health from the beginning of production to the end use for gasoline, corn-based ethanol and plant-based ethanol. The researchers say corn ethanol is no better than gasoline, and it may even be worse for air quality. The study says plant-based ethanol is better than the other two. **February 17, 2009, WCCO 4 News, "Fish Mercury"** – The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency says the amount of toxic mercury in the fish is on the rise. The rate has been going up steadily since the mid-1990's. Mercury in fish could be toxic to humans and other wildlife. Scientists analyzed fish from 845 lakes in Minnesota. They do not believe the mercury is coming from a local source, but rather from power plants in Asia pumping more mercury into our air. **February 19, 2009, WCCO 4 News, "Red Stag LEED"** – A local restaurant has become only the 9th place in the country to receive a special LEED certification. The Red Stag Supper Club in Northeast Minneapolis was given the LEED-CI Silver Certification for building an extremely environmentally-friendly, energy efficient building. The restaurant is 90 percent lit by LED lights and uses 70 percent less water than a typical restaurant. Seventy-five percent of the construction waste was recycled.

GOVERNMENT: Senate Recount, Gun Law, Mpls. Budget,

January 5, 2009, WCCO 4 News, "Senate Recount" – Sixty-two days after the election, Al Franken claimed victory in the U.S. Senate race. The Minnesota Canvassing Board unanimously certified the election numbers showing Franken as the winner. However, lawyers for Republican Senator Norm Coleman say they'll challenge the results in court. They claim thousands of ballots were mishandled or uncouned. Franken's lawyers predict Coleman's challenge will fail, describing him as the "former Senator" with a decision to make. **February 15, 2009, WCCO 4 News, "Gun Law"** – Legislation is being proposed to make it tougher to buy pistols and assault weapons. Right now in Minnesota, you need a permit and background check to buy these weapons from a licensed dealer, but buying from a private party does not apply. The proposed legislation would require all buyers of pistols and assault weapons to have a permit-to-purchase or

pass a locally conducted background check. The bill is aimed at stopping people from buying these weapons at gun shows, garage sales and on the Internet without those safeguards. **February 23, 2009, WCCO 4 News, "Mpls. Budget"** - Minneapolis Mayor, R.T. Rybak says the pain would have been much worse this year if not for the federal stimulus plan. Rybak credits the stimulus for saving nearly 100 jobs in the police and fire departments. However, next year, when there is no stimulus money to count on, services will have to be cut. The mayor is calling for a \$250,000 cut in the snow removal budget. He is also proposing laying off 33 city employees who work in administrative jobs. The police budget will get cut by \$1.5 million, but that cut will be in overtime and other expenses.

HEALTH: Alzheimer's Study, Too Much Radiation, Colonography

February 16, 2009, WCCO 4 News, "Alzheimer's Study" - Insulin has saved the lives of millions of people with diabetes. Now, it may be a possible solution to managing Alzheimer's Disease. At the Alzheimer's Research Center at Regions Hospital in St. Paul, a doctor has developed a patented intra-nasal insulin drug that goes directly to the brain through the patient's nose. Within 20 minutes, memory is improved for Alzheimer's patients. The insulin delivery process avoids most of the side effects caused by medicating the entire body. Recent studies have shown that intra-nasal insulin improves memory, attention and functioning. **March 4, 2009, WCCO 4 News, "Too Much Radiation"** - A recent study found a dramatic increase in diagnostic tests like x-rays, CT scans and Mammograms. Those tests are exposing Americans to seven times more radiation than three decades ago. Doctors say advances in diagnostic scans have eliminated the need for exploratory surgery in many cases, but too much radiation can increase the risk of cancer. The American College of Radiology is working with other groups to develop standards on the appropriate use of imaging tests. **March 28, 2009, WCCO 4 News, "Colonography"** - Colorectal cancer is the second leading cancer killer, yet it's estimated the vast majority these cancers would be prevented if everyone over age 50 would have a colonoscopy. Experts say many people fear having a colonoscopy. In fact, many patients find the prospect so intimidating, they skip it entirely. Colonography, sometimes referred to as a virtual colonoscopy, is a newer procedure which performs an examination outside the body. Although the procedure is not intended to replace a colonoscopy, recent improvements in radiology hardware and computer imaging software, have given colonography more respect. The American Cancer Society has decided the procedure should be included as one of the options for colon cancer screening. If a virtual colonoscopy reveals any suspicious growths, doctors can act immediately to take care of it. Colonoscopy is still necessary to remove them.

WOMEN: Women & Wine, Eating Disorder Clinic, Sara Jane Olson

February 25, 2009, WCCO 4 News, "Women & Wine" - For years, we've heard reports that red wine and other types of alcohol could help keep you healthy. However, new research found as little as one drink a day may significantly increase the risk of cancer in women. Scientists tracked more than a million middle-aged women for years. Compared to non-drinkers, those women who had one drink a day were more likely to get

breast, liver and oral cancers. **March 10, 2009, WCCO 4 News, “Eating Disorder Clinic”** – Up to 80 percent of American women will deal with eating disorders. Among the fastest growing groups of people seeking help are middle-aged women and girls under the age of 13. Insurance generally covers eating disorders treatment in Minnesota. Up to 1% of the population is anorexic and 4% are bulimic. An even higher percentage binge themselves into obesity. Demand for treatment is skyrocketing. Minneapolis’ Park Nicollet has a new 67,000 square foot facility, staffed with psychiatrists, therapists, dietitians, medical doctors and occupational and physical therapists. The clinic offers multi-levels of care to accommodate 1200 outpatients and dozens of in-patients from all over the country. **March 18, 2009, WCCO 4 News, “Sara Jane Olson”** – Sara Jane Olson has been released from a California prison after serving seven years for her involvement in the Symbionese Liberation Army. The sentence was for her part in a deadly bank robbery and for putting bombs underneath police cars in Los Angeles back in the 1970’s. Her name was Kathleen Soliah. She fled to St. Paul, assumed a new identity and was a fugitive for 25 years. She was a married housewife and mother of three daughters. She also volunteered for social causes. Eventually, she was arrested in St. Paul in 1999 while driving minivan. She had been profiled in the show, “America’s Most Wanted”.

YOUTH AND FAMILY: Smoking In Car, TV & Diet, Kid Prostitutes, Bath Products, Bullying Law

January 29, 2009, WCCO 4 News, “Smoking In Car” – A new bill was introduced in Minnesota that would make having a cigarette in your car illegal if you had children with you. The bill is aimed at protecting minors from second-hand smoke. Supporters say second hand smoke causes all kinds of problems, including asthma and bronchitis. Studies show when a cigarette is lit inside a car it takes only 20 seconds for it to become 10 times more toxic than the government says is safe for breathing. **January 29, 2009, WCCO 4 News, “TV & Diet”** - A University of Minnesota study links the amount of TV-watching that teenagers do to how poorly they eat. Researchers followed a group of kids over a five-year period and found the more television they watched the worse their eating habits became. The study found that teenagers who watch five hours or more of television everyday are more likely to eat fried and sugary foods as opposed to fruits, vegetables, whole grains and calcium-rich foods. Researchers say they think this is happening because television watching causes more mindless eating and because advertising geared toward young people works. **February 23, 2009, WCCO 4 News, “Kid Prostitutes”** - In what the FBI is calling a “disturbing operation”, Minneapolis police arrested 9 people involved in prostitution. Among them was a 17-year-old girl who FBI agents say was one of the main prostitutes, but also a victim. Several Minneapolis police officers went undercover for the operation. The FBI is calling the Twin Cities prostitution bust one of many that were successful as part of Operation Cross Country Three. **March 12, 2009, WCCO 4 News, “Bath Products”** - The Campaign for Safe Cosmetics teamed up with Minnesota-based Healthy Legacy to test a number of shampoos, bubble bath and lotions made for children. They found 61 percent of the items contained formaldehyde and 1-4 dioxane. Both of those chemicals have caused cancer in animals and may do the same in humans. Japan and Sweden have already

banned products that contain these chemicals. **March 23, 2009, *WCCO 4 News*, “Bullying Law”** – Bullying is a problem many children have faced. Federal studies show that more than 11% of high school students in America were bullied in school last year. Minnesota already has laws against bullying in schools. It’s illegal in schools to bully someone based on race, gender and religion. However, a proposal at the Capitol adds 14 new categories, including disability, physical characteristics and sexual orientation. A conservative family group, opposed to the proposal, said the bullying law is a disguise for a gay and lesbian agenda.